

THE WEEKLY BANNER.

J. G. RANKIN, Proprietor.
O. H. P. GARRETT, Editor.

Thursday, March 27, 1890.

The San Francisco Examiner nominates Hon. Wm C. Whitney, ex-secretary of the navy, for president in 1892 on the democratic ticket.

The Houston Herald ought to be as happy as a clam at high tide now, that Dan Smith failed to secure the democratic nomination for mayor.

The Blair educational bill is dead. The country is not quite ready yet to sell out or surrender lock, stock and barrel to the paternalistic idea.

Bismarck's retirement from the chancellorship of the German empire will furnish a topic for discussion among the papers for many a day to come.

The house committee on foreign affairs has directed its chairman to report in favor of reciprocity with Canada. If free trade is good as to Canada why not with any other and every other country?

The Floresville Chronicle announces in favor of the primary system of nominating candidates. But that's not more than was to be expected from so eminently level-headed a man as Editor Thompson.

Another outrage has been committed in Mississippi. A white man was hanged according to due process of law for killing a negro. Mum will be the word among the Northern bloody-shirt papers.

W. B. STEPHENS, formerly of the Castroville Anvil, and more recently of the Del Rio Record, is to start a new paper at Luling. He certainly cannot plead that he comes to fill a long-felt want. There is no yawning chasm there. Bridges has it bridged.

It goes mightily against the editors grain sometimes to see his brightest gems of thought, clothed in the solitude of his own originality, made to do duty as original editorial in a second journal, and afterwards quoted by a third paper and credited to the thieving pirate who stole it and gave no credit. But such things sometimes occur.

While Senator Hampton of South Carolina, Senator Colquitt, of Georgia, and Senator George, of Mississippi, are ordinarily men of fine discriminating judgment and true to the interests of their state and section, the time will yet come when they will readily concede that they made a big mistake in voting for the Blair bill. Many paternalistic schemes will be proposed in the future, but they will not be in a position to consistently oppose them after voting as they did on the measure.

The democrats throughout the country will watch the progress of politics in Illinois this year with unusual interest. The democracy are getting in a better fighting position every year in the sucker state, and ex-Gov. Palmer is doing yeoman service. He proposes to make the race for United States senator against Farwell, the present incumbent, provided the democratic state convention will declare him the choice of the party. In which event he will canvass every congressional district in the state and challenge Farwell to joint debate. There is a prospect of the memorable Lincoln and Douglas episode being revived.

As an evidence of how unreliable a great deal of the sensational rot is that is telegraphed from Washington by special newspaper correspondents, it was reported the other day by the Galveston News' Washington correspondent that the outlook for the passage of the Blair bill had greatly improved, that Senator Quay's fine Italian hand as republican boss had appeared and that he was working tooth and toe nail to secure its passage as a party measure, and that Vice-President Morton had suddenly returned from Florida to add to the republican strength. When the vote was taken the next day it was recorded that Quay was opposed to the bill and being absent from the capital was paired with one of the senators favoring the measure.

VOORHEES AND THE FARMERS.

The discussion of the tariff is such a threadbare one that the average reader is disposed to turn wearily away from anything which he sees on the subject in the newspapers. It would seem that so much has been said on it that nothing new remains to be said on either side. Still, even as a certain great classic orator among the ancients was in the habit of beginning and ending all of his speeches with the sentence, "Carthage must be destroyed," so it is incumbent upon the newspapers to continually allude to the enormities of the present tariff system until they are done away with and equal and exact justice is done to the American people, instead of the class favoritism and the class distinctions created by it. And it is highly important that the farmers of the country should be aroused to a proper appreciation of their condition, for, while their own salvation and their own interests are the most nearly concerned, they have it in their power to benefit the whole people. This was manifested in the last presidential election and thoroughly demonstrated. While bulldozing of employes by factory bosses and boodle had much to do with the result, yet the largest gains for tariff reform were in the manufacturing cities and the heaviest blows were received in the country from the farmers. Every farmer in the country should read the speech delivered in the United States senate the other day by the "Tail Sycamore of the Wabash." They would then understand why it is that so much discontent, anxiety and restlessness prevail among the farmers. They would then be able to see how the protective tariff is a curse and not a blessing; that every pretense of a home market for the farmer is a fraud and every pretense of taxing wheat and oats and potatoes for his benefit is a cheat and a sham. The speaker truly observed that the time would come, and at no very distant day at that, when the farmers would regard a proposition to tax them and their wives and children for the protection and benefit of other people besides themselves as they would look on a law of congress to establish the army worm and weevil in their wheat, to infest their cattle with murrain and their hogs with cholera. The old, old story, that protection makes the rich richer and the poor poorer is peculiarly true with reference to the farmer. According to the report of the state board of agriculture it cost the farmers of Illinois last year ten million of dollars more for their corn crop than they can sell it for and there has been no increase in the value of lands for the past quarter of a century. But while the farmers pay from 35 to 100 per cent tax on every implement of industry used and while they are farming at a loss and their farms are being plastered with mortgages, the railroad corporations are not only growing richer, but the richer they grow the more their assessments for taxation are reduced. The Pullman Palace Car Company, for instance, which was assessed in 1874 (sixteen years ago) at \$2,100,000, paid taxes in 1888 on only \$285,000; and the railroad assessments, which were \$133,000,000 in 1873 on 6,500 miles of track, are now reduced to \$68,000,000 when there are ten thousand miles of track.

POST-DISPATCH: President Harrison has ordered eight troops of cavalry to the Cherokee strip to turn out the "sooners." But he has not turned out the United States officials, his own appointees, who got into Oklahoma by virtue of their official positions and used the same to beat all the other "sooners" in the land-grabbing business. Instead of removing them and making them and their partners disgorge, he has been content with merely letting them know through Secretary Noble that he disapproves of their unlawful conduct.

The editor of the Tyler Dem. & Rep. must be one of Sam Jones' bright converts. Every time any remark at all irreverent is passed about Sam the Dem & Rep takes it up and resents it right away.

The questions of cheap food and food adulteration are entirely different. Cheap substitutes are often a blessing to poor people.



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